

# TF - Translation of Database ID/File Number

This Natural profile parameter is for:

- mainframes
- UNIX/OpenVMS and Windows



The parameter TF applies only to user files, **not** to system files.

This parameter can be used to translate a database ID/file number to another database ID/file number.

The translation of file number is relevant when developing an application in a production environment; it enables you to develop an application in a test database and then transfer the finished application to the production database without having to change or re-compile the application.

The transfer is done by a translation of the application's database identification (DBID) and file number (FNR): with the TF parameter, you specify the production DBID/FNR and the test DBID/FNR. The Natural objects are then cataloged with the production DBID/FNR, but whenever a database access is executed, the production DBID/FNR is translated into the test DBID/FNR; that is, the test database is used. This means that testing can take place in the actual production environment, but not with production data.

## Mainframes

This parameter can be used to dynamically specify the same options which can be specified statically with the macro NTTF in the parameter module.

<b>Possible settings</b>	production and test database IDs, and production and test file numbers	See below.
<b>Default setting</b>	none	
<b>Dynamic specification</b>	YES	This parameter can only be specified dynamically.
<b>Specification within session</b>	NO	

The parameter is specified as follows:

```
TF=(production-DBID,production-FNR,test-DBID,test-FNR)
```

To translate all FNRs in the specified *production-DBID* to all FNRs in the specified *test-DBID*, you specify an asterisk for both *production-FNR* and *test-FNR*:

```
TF=(production-DBID,*,test-DBID,*)
```

To translate *all* production DBIDs and FNRs to the specified *test-DBID* and *test-FNR*, you specify asterisks for the *production-DBID* and *production-FNR*:

```
TF=(*,*,test-DBID,test-FNR)
```

The TF parameter can be specified several times so as to specify different combinations of file numbers.

Instead of the TF parameter, you can also use the NTTF macro in the parameter module. To transfer the finished application from testing to production, you simply switch off the DBID/FNR translation by using another Natural nucleus in which the NTTF macro is omitted from the NATPARM module: the programs then use the original DBID/FNR with which they were cataloged; that is, the production DBID/FNR.

## UNIX/OpenVMS and Windows

This parameter is used to translate the database ID/file number of a production database into the database ID/file number of a test database.

<b>Possible settings</b>	see text "*" for production DBID and FNR
<b>Default setting</b>	none
<b>Dynamic specification</b>	YES
<b>Specification within session</b>	NO

The TF parameter can be specified several times. Existing specifications are displayed in a corresponding list box.

**Note:**

Production and test databases must be of the same type (Adabas/Adabas, for example).

**Note:**

For SQL databases, the file number must always be set to 1.